

**April 6, 1987**

**4100 STUDENT SAFETY**

**4100 Statutory Authority**

The Vermont Statutes Annotated addresses the areas of school attendance, truancy, discipline, punishment, health, safety, and transportation. Refer to the statutes for specific laws.

The subject of “student records” is addressed elsewhere in this manual. [Editor’s Note: See Rule 2120.8.3.3]

**4101** Every school district receiving federal and/or state funds for program support will develop a program of safety, institute that safety program, and monitor it to make sure it is kept current.

**4102** Superintendents and school boards shall develop a comprehensive emergency plan for each school that will be updated and tested annually and a functional emergency organization.

The plan shall include provision of such disasters as fire, smoke, tornado, nuclear disaster, snow, blizzard, ice, flood, earthquake, bomb threat, civil disturbance, bus accidents and other emergencies.

**4200 Alcohol and Drugs**

**4210** Statutory Authority: 16 VSA §1165

**4211** Definition

Alcohol and drug abuse (substance abuse) shall be defined as: “the ingestion of a substance in such a way that it interferes with a person’s ability to perform physically, intellectually, emotionally or socially.”

Vermont Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs.

**4212** Policy Requirements

School districts shall adopt an alcohol and drug abuse policy which shall contain the following:

**4212.1** Statement of Philosophy.

This policy shall be concerned with the health and well being of all students and the policy shall take into consideration the individual needs of students with problems as well as the right of the majority of students to an education.

4212.2 Education Program.

The policy shall define an educational program consistent with the Vermont Alcohol and Drug Education Curriculum Plan

4212.3 Support and Referral Systems and Cooperative Agreements.

The policy shall provide for a support and referral system for students in distress due to their own or another's use of alcohol or other drugs. Such a system shall include both a clearly defined in-school process for initial assessment, support, and if necessary, referral to community resources of such students, and a written referral agreement with at least one community substance abuse treatment provider approved by the Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs. Such an agreement should define the process for making an effective referral and the nature and extent of information to be provided during and after such a referral to all parties involved.

4212.3A Immediate Procedures

The policy shall provide for the handling of any alcohol/drug related incident until the student has been discharged to the parent, guardian, social service, medical or law enforcement agency.

4212.3B Emergency

The school district policy shall establish procedures for administering emergency first aid related to alcohol and drug abuse. The procedures will define the roles of the personnel involved.

4212.3C Possession, distribution, etc.

The school shall have a procedure that requires the administration to be immediately informed by a school staff member of any violation of the law, including illegal possession or distribution of drugs or alcohol. The administration shall follow the appropriate legal procedures and due process of law for discipline.

4212.3D Performance and Behavior Related Problems

School district policy shall designate staff available for consultation with a student whose behavior or performance may indicate a problem with alcohol or drug abuse. This staff will determine the need for further screening, education, counseling, or referral for treatment.

4213 Procedures for education

4213.1 Schools shall develop a sequential K-12 alcohol and drug abuse prevention education curriculum as defined in Vermont State Alcohol and Drug Education Curriculum Plan and in Health Education and Traffic Safety and Driver Education requirements of the Standards for Approving Vermont's Public Schools.

4213.2 Schools shall provide for training of school staff such that teachers and health and guidance personnel have a sufficient level of professional development to enable them to competently teach or provide other services required in the school's alcohol and drug abuse prevention education program. A minimum training program should be directed toward the following areas:

- Pharmacology
- Chemical Use, Abuse, and Dependence
- Chemical Dependence and the Family
- Societal and Personal Attitudes
- Policy and Legal Issues
- Support and referral Systems for Students in Distress
- Curriculum Development, Methods, and Classroom Issues
- School Climate
- Drinking and Driving

In addition there shall be an orientation for the entire school community on the program, its intent, and alcohol and drug issues in general.

4214 Community Involvement

Schools shall provide for a program to inform the community about the school's alcohol and drug prevention education program, alcohol and drug abuse prevention issues, and community-wide responsibility for effective alcohol and drug abuse prevention.

4215 Annual Report

Schools shall submit an annual report, due to the Commissioner of Education by July 1 of each year, which includes a description of the school's alcohol and drug abuse prevention program, the apparent effectiveness of the program, an evaluation of the curriculum, and an assessment of the problems of alcohol and drug abuse within the school district. This report shall use the standard format provided by the Department of Education.

4220 Prescription Drugs

4221 Statement of Purpose

Many children are able to attend regular school because of the effective use of medication in the treatment of chronic disabilities or illnesses. When possible medication shall be administered in the home. However, any student who is required to take medication during the regular school days must comply with the school regulations, which shall require the following.

4222 Procedures

The school shall assure that the following are provided:

4222.1 Written orders from a physician detailing the name of the drug, dosage, time interval the medication is to be taken, diagnosis, and reason for giving.

4222.2 Written permission from the parent or guardian requesting that the school district comply with the physician's order.

4222.3 Medication brought to school in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician.

4222.4 A locked cabinet for storage of medications.

4222.5 Opportunities for communication with the pupil, parent, and physician regarding the efficacy of the medication administered during school hours.